

Column One

Boost sports
WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-80

✓ Tick the correct answers
Competition closes at 8 pm,
Oct 17, '97

1 Who clinched the U-17 soccer World Cup?
Argentina Brazil Nigeria

2 Who was the man-of-the-tournament in the recent Sahara Cup?
Azhar Afridi Saurav

3 Who lifted the Grand Slam Cup?
Rafer Sampson Korda

4 Who are the Mahanagar Cup soccer champions?
Muktijuddha Abahani Mohammadan

5 Which company will sponsor the '99 cricket World Cup?
Pepsi Wills Coca Cola

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



NEVER SAY OVER: A host of *tokais* (street urchins) having an absorbing practice session at the Rajuk ground, which has been declared a venue for meetings of political parties recently. Although the so-called star booters of the country have brought the popular game to disgrace, the spontaneity and the enthusiasm of the kids raise a glimmer of hope for the future.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Taylor no believer of two-leader theory



MELBOURNE, Oct 7 (AP): Australian captain Mark Taylor, speaking out Tuesday against separate leaders for Test and one-day cricket, described his job as "sacred" and not one to be "bandied about."

Australian selectors have been told to consider choosing two separate entities for matches from this season for the first time, a move seen by many as loosening Taylor's hold on the captaincy.

Taylor's captaincy saved his position in the team over the past year as his form with the bat fell away, but he has never been considered an outstanding one-day player because of a slow scoring rate.

England responded to the increase in one-day matches on the world cricket calendar, and the pressure on Test captain Michael Atherton, by choosing Adam Hollioake to take over in charge of the one-day team to play the Sharjah tournament in December.

"I can see the day when there are separate captains but I'm far from sure it's an ideal situation," Taylor said at the Australian Cricket Board's season launch Tuesday.

The Australian captaincy is something which should be held very, very dearly. I certainly do and I'm sure my 38 predecessors thought exactly the same.

"The captaincy is something you want to hold onto very tightly, not something you want to be bandied around. It is something very sacred in the

game."

Taylor said he was intent on playing for Australia at both forms of cricket this season as the world's most successful contemporary side faces home matches against New Zealand and South Africa before touring India and Pakistan.

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people have the full meaning of what the Australian captaincy means. It is a very big office.

"I remember, going back to May 18, 1994, when I got the job I knew it was a big appointment and I still believe that. It is not something you want to be bandied around and say he'll be captain one game and he'll be captain the next. It has to be held with the esteem it deserves."

Taylor said pressure to stay in the one-day team was something he had been forced to deal with since his early days when he was opening the batting in Tests but left out of the limited overs game.

"I've put 12 years into my life as a first-class cricketer and nine years as an Australian player and I'm still enjoying it. While I'm still enjoying it I'm going to make myself available to play."

Taylor said the decision to pick two teams formalised a trend over the past few years of bringing different players in for limited-overs games.

"Of course I'll say I'm in the best one-day team, but it's not for me to say," Taylor added.

He has played in 113 limited overs internationals, but has never been a star performer in the abbreviated instant thrills version of the game.

His steady batting in an opening role has produced only one century in 110 innings, a strike rate selectors are likely to consider inadequate as they begin to implement their strategy for the 1999 World Cup one-day competition in England.

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